

sports

Undefeated streak continues in men's soccer



Rookie striker Danny Burns

DAL PHOTO: ANGEL FIGUEROA

by Angel Figueroa

First-year striker Danny Burns of the men's soccer team called it "a good thing."

And it was. Who'd deny the fact that life as a rookie is rough? When you're on the bench watching everyone else play in the mud, you feel left out of the gang. So when you finally get out there, you want to kick up as much mud as you can. Burns did just that: with only 16 minutes into a 4-0 victory over visiting Acadia on Wednesday October 14, he scored with a great shot on the volley to mark the opening goal of the game and the first of his career as a Dal player.

After being given the nod for his first game as a starting striker, the kid was sure to be psyched, and eager to prove his worth. Never mind that it was due to circumstance, as half of the starting eleven would be sitting out of the first half due to fatigue.

"[Coach] Ian Kent mentioned that the King of Donair guys wouldn't be

starting since they just got back from the national championships," he explained. "I knew I'd be getting a chance so I just wanted to do my best. As a striker, you're always expected to get a lot of shots on net and make some plays up front. I really wanted to do something, and I'm glad it happened."

Another rookie who shone was Chris Devlin, who initiated the play that ended in Burns' goal, and provided the impetus for another one later in the game. As a left-footer, he adds an interesting touch to an already well-developed Dal midfield.

Among the veterans, John Richmond had his fair share of mud as always, taking care of goals two and three. In the 44th minute he aced a penalty kick and in the 50th he was the final touch of a relentless, skilful drive to score the double-insurance goal. At midfield, Devlin passed to Rob Sawler on the wing, who fired a shot that forced a corner kick. On the kick, Adrian Ibbetson had a shot on net with that head of his, but the

keeper misjudged it, leaving Colin Audain to strip it and then pass it quietly to Richmond, who then one-timed it for the goal.

Later in the half, midfielder Tony Pignatiello put his own magic touch on the ball. On the run down the wing, Sawler laid it off to Craig Janc who, at some incredible angle, managed to cross a real beauty to Pignatiello, waiting to head it in for the fourth and final goal of the game.

While keeper Trevor Chisolm was congratulated for his fourth shutout in five games, much credit also goes to veteran defender Rob Adams, who put in a fine game as sweeper. But he was modest when approached for his 15 minutes of fame: "Peter [Lee] and Jamie [Sawler] make it easy for a sweeper when they do their job so well."

The Memorial University squad came to Halifax to play Dal on Oct. 17 but left with their reputation from years past still unchanged, and lost 2-1. A bunch of baby-faced innocents these guys are not, despite their baby-blue uniforms. (Maybe it's a psychological ploy, who knows?). That Memorial scored first, in the 13th minute of play, set the standard for the remainder of the game, but not in the way you might think.

Having capitalized on a defensive mistake just outside Dal's penalty box, and scoring with a well placed lob that beat Dal keeper Chisolm, Memorial figured it'd have to really fight to turn this game into an upset. Unfortunately, that is exactly what it did. The only way to circumvent Dal's far superior skill was to cut it down. Dirty, rough play became the standard. Tempers soared on the pitch, as you had to wonder just what planet the referee was on, as Memorial got away with a lot. All the scoring was done in the first 22 minutes of the game, as play thereafter was hampered severely, and then completely lost to just whacking the ball around.

Sedgwick was on the attack after a setup by Audain in the 18th minute, but was tripped within the box. Wheeler answered the call with a solid penalty kick, drawing the score to one apiece. A barrage of shots

followed, with Pignatiello and Sedgwick leading the count for the remainder of the half. The two were outstanding, and engineered what must be one of the best goals of the season, which came in the 22nd

minute of action:

Audain set up a play that fed Sedgwick on the wing who, after beating a defender, did a marvellous give-and-go with Pignatiello just as

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X-country triumphs

by Dan Hennigar

The women's Cross Country team completed its regular conference season undefeated with a convincing win over St. Francis Xavier in Antigonish last Sunday, October 17. Anne Marie Farnell, Dal's top runner this year, led from start to finish. Her time of 17:45 over the hilly 5 km course was her best to date. Shari Boyle, an all-Canadian in 1991, placed second with a time of 18:22, while Rayleen Hill completed Dal's sweep of the top three positions with a time of 18:30.

Paula Peters (18:48), Jessica Fraser (18:52), Margie Jenkins (19:15), and Melina Murray, the remaining four runners on the Dal team (all rookies) finished an impressive fifth, sixth, ninth, and twelfth respectively, to bring Dal's total points to 17. St. Francis Xavier was second with 60 points. Acadia (92) and University

of New Brunswick (98) finished third and fourth.

In men's competition Dal lost a close race to UNB. The race was won by UNB's Rorrie Currie with Moncton's Joel Bourgeois finishing second. Both Rory and Joel are former national team members. Paul Riley, Dal's top male runner, ran a strong race finishing fifth in 23:53 over the 7.5 km course. Dal's Paul Smith (24:02) and Chris Halfyard (24:20) finished just behind in sixth and seventh place, while Grant Murray, Jamie Cliff, and Gary Newell finished twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth, respectively.

In team competition, UNB placed first with 31 points followed closely by Dal with 40. Rounding out the field were Moncton (79), StFX (112), Memorial (138), and Acadia (177).

Both teams are looking forward to the AUAA championships to be held in Fredericton on October 31.

First loss for women's soccer

Derek Neary

The Dalhousie Tigers suffered a 1-0 setback at the hands of the Saint Mary's Huskies in Women's Soccer League action on Friday October 16th.

The loss was the first of the season for the Tigers, who were also unable to defeat the front-running Huskies in their previous meeting at Studley field on October 7th.

Friday's rematch was highlighted by a trio of SMU players — striker Marija Karincich, midfielder and player-of-the-game Debbie Pottie, and keeper Shelly Whitman. The two forwards combined on the game's lone goal in the 42nd minute when

Pottie weaved a pass across to Karincich, who redirected the ball into the Dal net.

The second half belonged to Whitman. She stymied the Tigers' offensive charges time after time. Kate Gillespie launched the Tigers' final shot at the 88 minute mark but she was denied by a spectacular diving save to preserve the shut out. Dalhousie head coach Darrell Cormier described the opposing keeper's performance as "just awesome."

Cormier also had praise for the rest of the Huskies' squad.

"Saint Mary's played well," he said. "We were tentative. We didn't go in as hard as we could have and when we didn't we ended up losing the ball because they are playing better now."

The Wednesday October 7th contest between these two teams ended in a 2-2 deadlock. Gillespie gave the Dal crew a 1-0 and 2-1 advantage but the Huskies replied on goals by Karincich and Suzanne Muir to salvage a tie.


The Tigers' record now stands at 4-1-3. A first place finish is unlikely but Dalhousie has a firm hold on second spot in the overall standings. They will be in Newfoundland for a pair of games against the Memorial Seahawks on Saturday October 24th and Sunday October 25th.

Additional weekend scores included: Acadia 1 Memorial 0; UPEI 2 Moncton 1 on Sunday. On Saturday it was Memorial 3 St. FX 1.

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